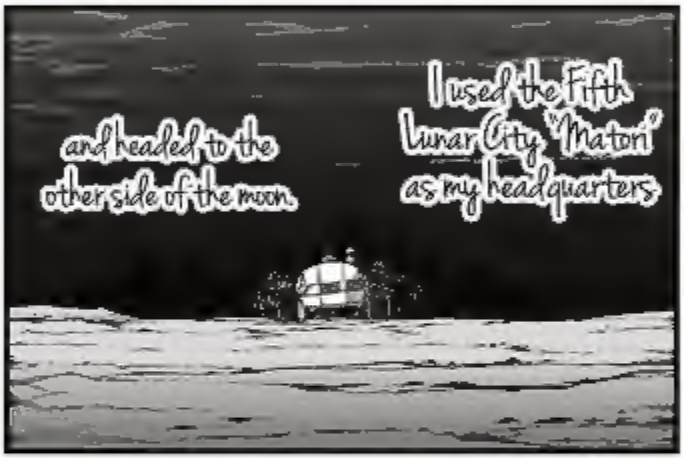
月の珊瑚

Exploring the Lunar City—

佐々木少年

原作／奈須きのこ

キャラクターデザイン原案／武内崇・逢倉千尋


I used the Fifth Lunar City "Matori" as my headquarters
and headed to the other side of the moon.

My research indicated that there should be a nuclear core there that provided hydrogen to the seven cities.

On the other side of the moon, which could not be seen from the Earth...
However...
was a gray forest.
I guess there's no helping it...

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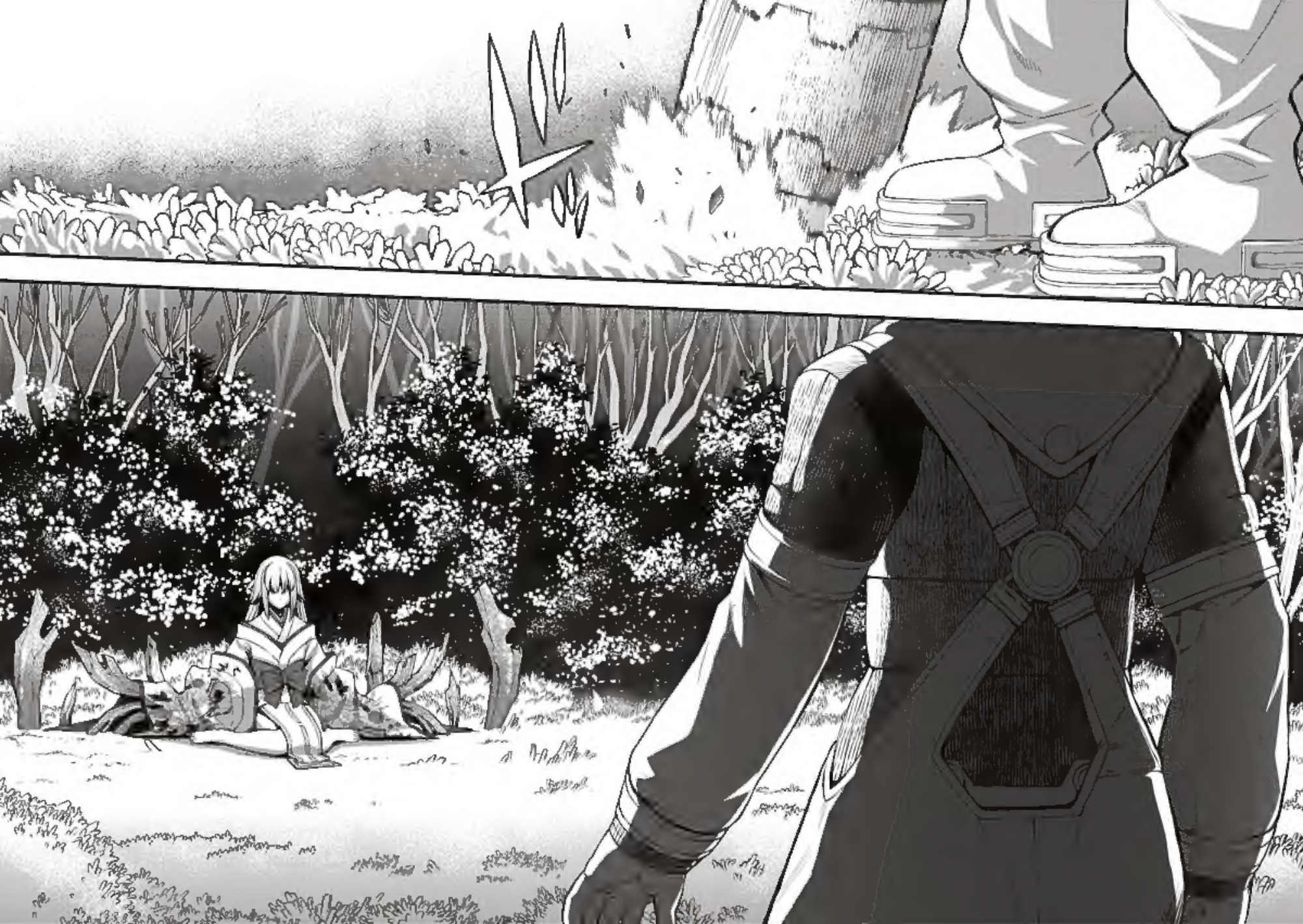
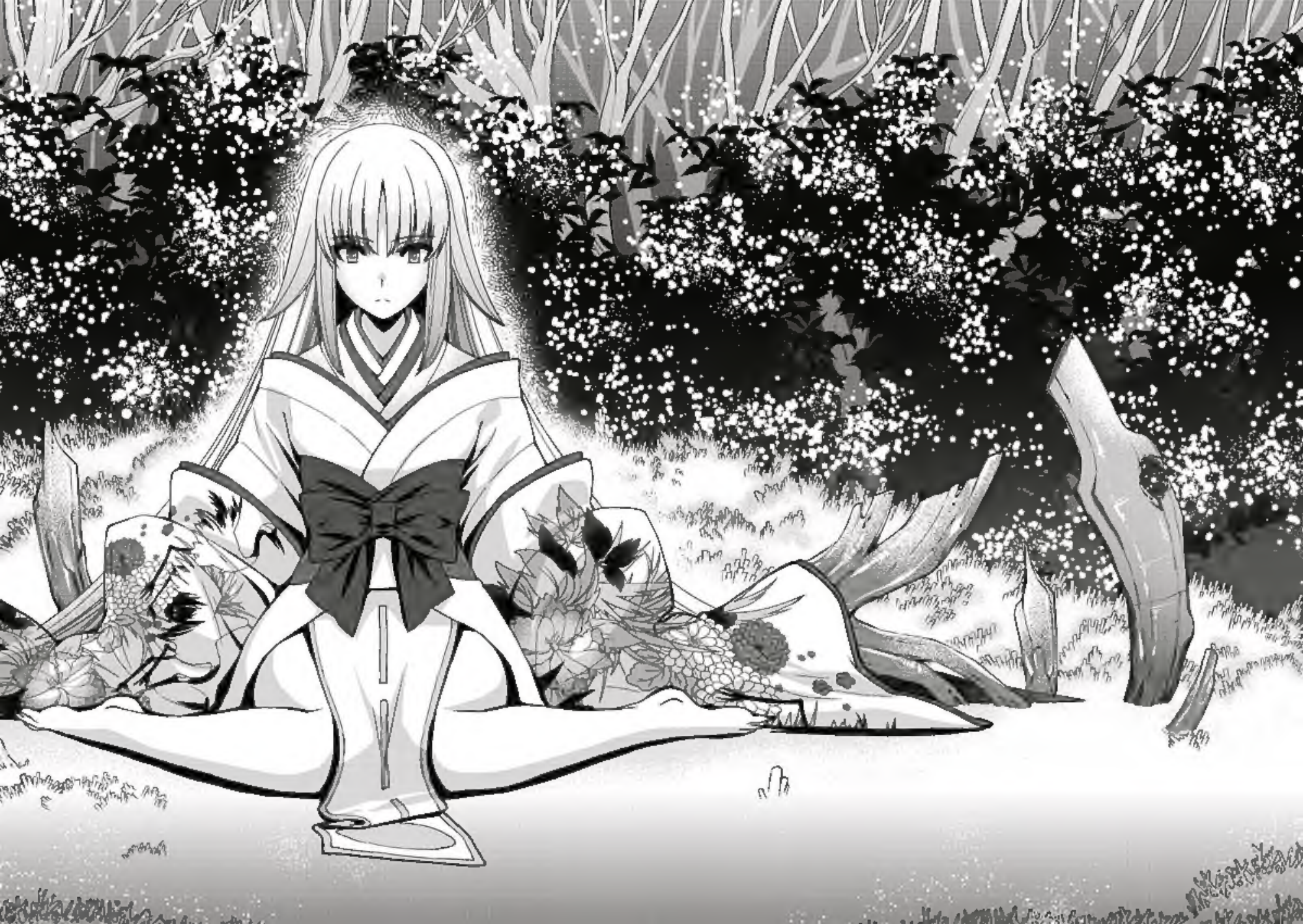
A thick layer of ice
covering the sky.

Trees made of
limestone.

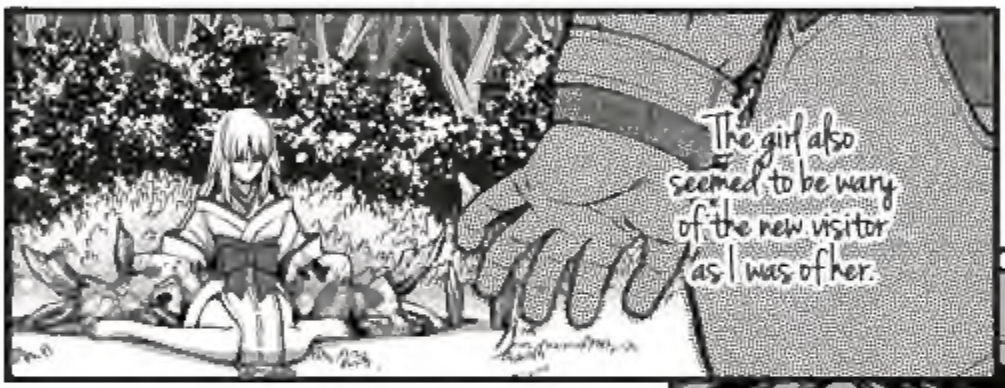
And at the center
of it all—

—Just once,
I doubted my sanity.





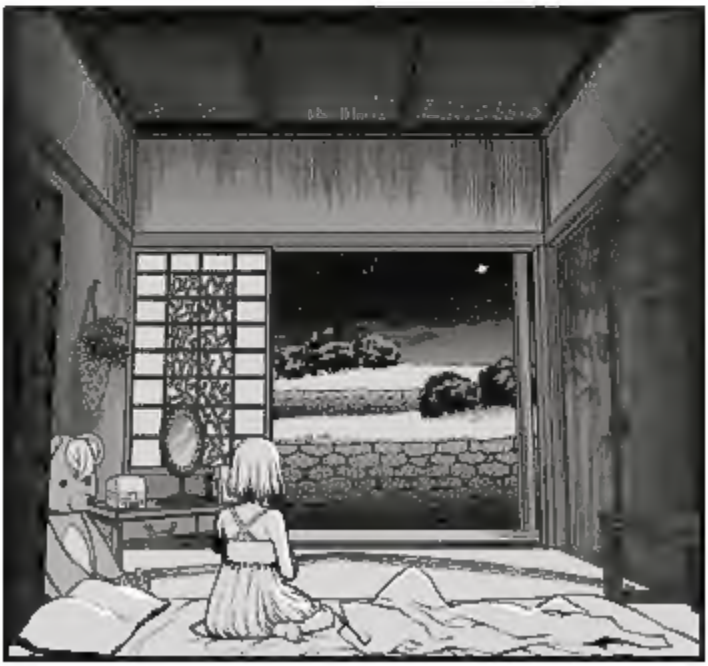
there she stood.
At the core of the nuclear reactor providing the necessary molecules for hydrogen, carbon, oxygen, and nitrogen,


The girl also seemed to be wary of the new visitor as I was of her.

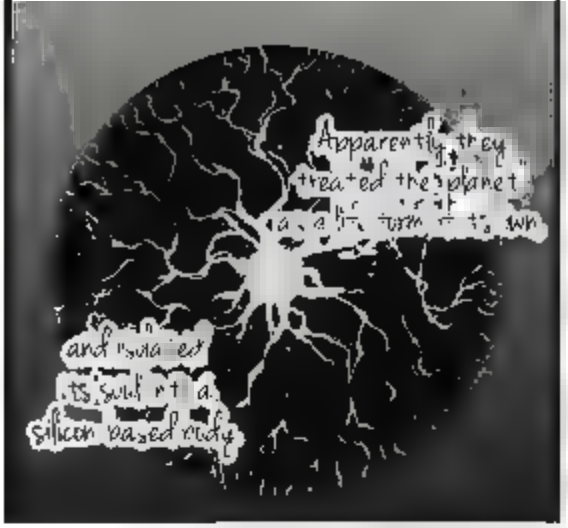
"Wait, that can't be right. Why is there an alien on the surface of the moon?"

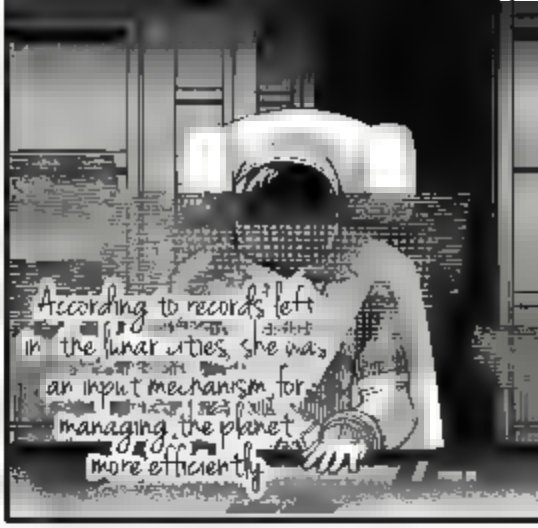
My first impression was, of course,

This...



Of course, she was a proper life form falling under the umbrella of terrestrial life, not an alien.


Apparently, they treated the planet as a living form of its own
and installed its soul in a silicon based body


According to records left in the lunar cities, she was an input mechanism for managing the planet more efficiently

It says "soul" but presumably they meant "brain"

The scientists in the Moon had created an artificial brain
Planets have parts that you could call their "body" and "heart" but no such organ as a "brain"
and a command body to go along with it with which they could control the planet as they pleased

,,felt reluctant to approach such a grandiose life form,
but the resources required for survival came from her surroundings.

She—

Every twelve hours I would go to replenish my stocks, and each time,
I would gaze at the forest by the girl's side for an hour.

The girl never took a single step, nor did she ever seem to try to communicate with me.

Her arms were discolored black from the elbow downwards, and her construction became sharper as it connected with the ground.

A living girl illuminated by blue light. / Glowing flaxen hair, smooth stone skin.
It reminded me of white, unblemished alabaster.

—Yes, placed upon her.
Because she almost certainly hadn't worn it herself.
She had an old dress made of some unknown material placed upon her.
I would later find out that one of the scientists responsible for her creation had felt bad leaving her naked like that, and placed the dress over her.
FULL
His peers had apparently chided him for treating her as a human.
At this point I'm inclined to agree with them.

Silicon life—the girl made of stone, was an immortal life form that operated on a different time scale from us.
I had come all the way to the Moon so "I" could be "alone", and yet I have met an "immortal" "girl"—
She was not an incomplete life form like me.
To Be Continued....

Tsuki no Sango
月の珊瑚

Most of the script was taken from Mazui Subs' (RIP) english translation of the novel. There is no problem with this because the manga is nearly a carbon copy of the novel (I also double-check with the original script), save for the original content that Sasaki adds ocasionally, which I translate. Hopefully this will speed up things, though it's not like the manga has a regular schedule but whatever.